

FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT UNIT
U.S. FOREST SERVICE
DORAVILLE, GEORGIA

REPORT OF AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: William B. Bankhead National Forest

STATE: Alabama

AREA WITHIN SURVEY BOUNDARY: 349,000 acres

DATE: February 2, 1979

AIRCRAFT: Cessna 182

CREW: W. A. Carothers (Aerial Survey Team), Jack Beck and James Cole
(William B. Bankhead National Forest)

REPORT PREPARED BY: W. A. Carothers

SURVEY OBJECTIVES: To conduct an aerial detection survey of the William B. Bankhead National Forest for trees suspected of being attacked by southern pine beetle (*Dendroctonus frontalis* Zimm.).

SURVEY RESULTS

A 50% aerial survey of the Bankhead National Forest found 135 spots of dead or dying pines. Spot size ranged from one tree per spot to 100 trees per spot. In addition, two small areas of fire damage were also located.

In general the spots were well distributed throughout the National Forest. However, a fairly heavy concentration of spots was detected in an area immediately south of the Moreland fire tower. Spots of dead and dying pines occurred in natural stands as well as plantations (refer to map).

CONCLUSIONS

A new outbreak of southern pine beetle appears to be developing on the William B. Bankhead National Forest. During the last survey conducted in July 1978 no spots were observed larger than 15 trees (refer to table). Based on the results of this latest survey and reports from District personnel, southern pine beetle activity is increasing on the Bankhead National Forest. The last southern pine beetle outbreak occurred in this area from 1972-1975. A biological evaluation of the Bankhead National Forest will be conducted by Forest Insect and Disease Management (Alexandria Field Office). Field surveillance by National Forest personnel should continue to promote early detection of forest insect or disease problems.

We appreciate the assistance of Jack Beck and James Cole of the William B. Bankhead National Forest.

For any additional information, Contact

Forest Insect and Disease Management Unit, S&PF
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Table 1. Summary of Aerial Survey Data - Southern Pine Beetle Detection,
William B. Bankhead National Forest

<u>Survey Date</u>	<u>Singles</u>	<u>2-5</u>	<u>Spot Size</u>		
			<u>6-20</u>	<u>21-50</u>	<u>51+</u>
7/18/78*	43	19	3	--	--
2/2/79**	27	51	48	8	1

* 25% coverage

**50% coverage

Aerial Detection Survey 2/2/79

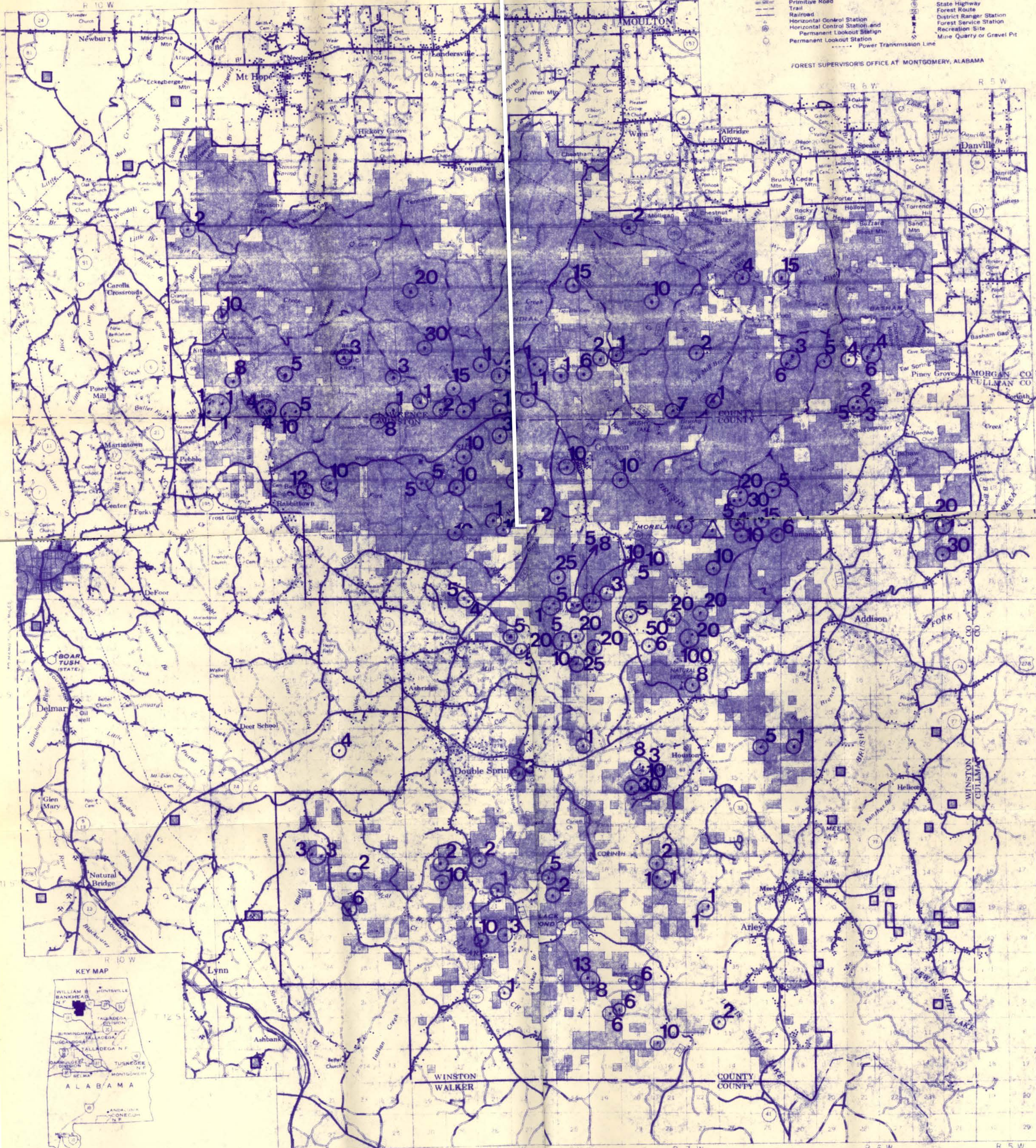
- Spots of dead or dying pines with the number of affected trees
- Fire damage

TOWNSHIP AND SECTION LINE CLASSIFICATION
Surveyed, location only

WILLIAM B. BANKHEAD NATIONAL FOREST ALABAMA HUNTSVILLE MERIDIAN 1965



FOREST SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE AT MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA



FOREST SERVICE MAP CLASS A
Compiled in the Regional Office, Region 8, Atlanta, Georgia in 1965 from U.S.G.S Quads and U.S. Forest Service Planimetric Series Maps. Revised in Regional Office 1971.

Polyconic Projection
1927 North American Datum